



Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes July 14, 2021

Members in Attendance: Stephen Crane, Meryl Schwartz, Phil Posner, Aaron Miklosko, Steve Dookran, Terri Ackerman (SB liaison) Marcia Rasmussen, Kevin Monahan

- 4:04 meeting called to order followed by a roll call
- Wally Johnston formally resigned from the TAC as he has moved out of Town. Terri Ackerman replaced Jane Hotchkiss as the Select Board Liaison as Jane's term has ended. The TAC thanks them both for their service to the committee and the Town.
- Minutes for May 12, 2021 were not approved due to suggested comments from the public to clarify meaning of the comments. Minutes will be redistributed with the comments and committee members will review.

Traffic study

- Town Engineer Steve Dookran said there is a need to find money to complete the study. There would be a need to look for a consultant and funds to pay for a study.
There is a need to define areas/corridors and what are acceptable speeds. What needs to be noted is that it could change speed limits to higher speeds based on the findings of the study. It was noted that a 'Cut Through Study' has been completed which did look at speed on various streets but was done more for police use
- Meryl Schwartz says just doing a speed study may not be enough as we need to look at how roads are being used and traffic patterns
- Phil Posner said a consultant should be hired for a speed study, Mr. Posner said that federal guidelines say that roadways should not be described based only on motorists, mentioned that Town Staff may want to review newest information and rules and regulations
- Motion made motion by Phil Posner and seconded by Lt. Kevin Monahan is to propose that a draft scope of services of town wide speed services will be put together, roll call vote approved

Junction Park Update

- Stencils and signs are in, stencils will be tested first in CPW yard, site visit will be scheduled (white yellow or white green color options)
- Bruce Freeman Route 2 bridge is underway so looking to get these on the pavement sooner rather than later
- Mr. Posner mentioned that there is a desire to do some data collection on how well the signage is working

Sudbury Road Crosswalk

- Mr. Dookran said that the low bid came in at \$140,000, more than \$50,000 over the estimate, funding has been approved and looking when it can be completed. Work can likely begin in August and will take 6-7 weeks to complete.

- Steve Ledoux, 89 Heaths Bridge Rd – asked how traffic will be handled during the construction. Mr. Doorkan responded that during rush hour there will be efforts made to keep 2 lanes open to keep traffic flowing

TAC Bicycle Subcommittee Member Discussion

- The current structure of the TACBS is 3 members, Mr. Posner said he was looking at 7-9 members based on comparable committees in different towns. Mr. Posner said he felt 7 was the right number and due to the amount of work needed such as data collections, survey creation, etc
- A discussion regarding the purpose of the bicycle sub-committee is and the number of members ensued including points made that having more members would not necessarily means having more help for committee business and that the creation of a committee charge based on Lincoln's similar committee may be of interest.
- A motion was made by Mr. Posner to change the sub-committee from a 3 member committee to a 5 member committee was seconded by LT. Monahan. It was approved by a roll call vote
- Marcia Rasmussen brought up that there were other groups in towns that are working on bicycling so they should be contacted

Shared Streets Grant

- Town received funds for improvements to BFRT intersections including flashing beacons, etc at the crossing at Old Marlboro Road and bike share funding

Commonwealth Ave Complete Streets Project

- Mr. Dookran presented a short presentation on the project and showed how comments from the committee had been incorporated into the project design, the project is to be completed by September 30
- Ms. Schwartz asked if the project manager could visit the disability commission and review the project
- Ms. Rasmussen mentioned that the West Concord Advisory Committee
- Amy Kaiser, 294 Commonwealth Ave, chair of the WC Advisory Committee – asked if the project funding included contingencies to cover all additional costs and if a project like this was normal.
- Ann Sussman, 524 Old Marlboro Road – Ms. Sussman asked what the speed limit on Commonwealth Ave was and if signage or something else may be able to help others better understand the speed limit.

Liaison, Public, or Other Comments:

- Terri Ackerman: Thanks for all the work being done by the committee
- Dorrie Kehoe, 51 Macarthur Rd – want to see how signs work in Junction Park, saw on GIS that BFRT goes through Junction Park is that correct and that she wants to know why it displays in that way and where it should display it going
 - Ms. Rasmussen stated that the planning
- Amy Kaiser, 294 Commonwealth Ave – thanks for the work done on commonwealth ave project, benches would be welcome instead of grass spaces in, would appreciate more attention being paid to other spaces on commonwealth
- Ann Sussman, 524 Old Marlboro Road – worried about speed on commonwealth ave, especially as people come off rt 2
- Richard Fahlander, 399 Old Bedford Road – Short term issue with 2 speeds shown going opposite directions on certain streets, like Lexington Road and Old Marlboro, look at lowering to the slower speed until a speed study can be done. Possible other areas could use a second look for the speed study. Want to see the Reformatory Branch Trail be taken up by the TAC.
- Mark Gailus, 62 Prescott Road – it would be beneficial to have a presentation of what the current jurisdictions are at Junction Park for the benefit of the community, explained what his desired edits to the previous minutes were
- Burton Flint, 1643 Main Street, How many parking spaces were taken away by the work being done on Commonwealth Ave? The Planning Board had not wanted to lose more than 6
 - Mr. Dookran responded it is only 2 spaces being lost

Motion to adjourn 5:45 pm after a roll call vote